

TENARERE:
A CULTURAL TRADITION SONG AND DANCE FOR
STRENGTHENING BROTHERHOOD UNITY OF ADONARA
COMMUNITY MEMBERS
IN EAST NUSA TENGGARA

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Abstract: *Tenarere* as a cultural art tradition of the ethnic group in Adonara area (East Nusa Tenggara) belongs to a ritual dance. The performance of this art form is used as an annual celebration for recalling the historical journey of their great ancestors from their former land (Moluccus islands) to their present home island (Adonara). In order to explicate the underlying meaning of the dance, the study is done through the viewpoint of the three aspects of cultural paradigm (form-function-meaning). It is found that this cultural art tradition has a multi-dimensional function – ritually, historically, aesthetically, and socially. One of its social functions is to strengthen the brotherhood unity of the the *knirek* and *ata gooken* who have been living spreadingly all over the Adonara island.

Key-words: *Tenarere* cultural art tradition; form-function-meaning cultural paradigm; *knirek*; *ata gooken*; brotherhood unity.